

## A PERFECT COUPLE

how right we were for each other just then.

as right as ... ?

you fill in the blanks -- you were

the one taking creative writing,

which i was not even teaching.

but i suppose it was my poetry

drew you to me -- i don't know

what else it could possibly have been --

while what drew me to you,

besides your fine tall longhaired big-titted beauty,

was that you were drawn to me,

were considerate to me,

at a time when i was getting unused to those qualities.

you had your child

and i had my children

you had your schoolwork

and i had mine

you had your writing

i had my writing

we were so busy

that i often forgot to call you

and when i did call

you were often not there.

we didn't see each other often --

that was bad in some ways,

good in others.

but we had each other in the back of our minds,

had each other as psychic allies,

which gave us confidence in our dealings

with those in our lives with whom we had to deal.

we were not meant to be together forever --

i think we knew that from the start,

but i was your man and you were my woman

when i needed a woman and you a man.

i at forty, and you at thirty,

we didn't ask for much, and we got

exactly what we asked for.

**... gerald locklin**